
Training and News for the Seattle Auxiliary Communication Service

ACS Plans Improvements

Team Leaders Meet to Plan Membership Campaign and other Projects

By Jonathan Scherch, KK7PW

On the evening of January 26, 2005, a meeting of ACS leadership was convened at the Seattle EOC at 1900 hours. In attendance were: Mark Sheppard, N7LYE; Bill Dockstader, W7LSK; Curt Black, WR5J; Bill Ehler, K7NZV (Northwest zone Team Leader);

Jonathan Scherch, KK7PW (Southwest zone Team Leader) and Kurt Black, WR5J, (Southwest zone Assistant Team Leader); George Boswell, K7YHB, (Northeast zone Team Leader) and Don Moore, K7DEM, (Northeast zone Assistant Team Leader); and

Matthew Thomas, KD7PPK, (Central-East zone Team Leader). Mark Sheppard, N7LYE, is acting as the interim Central-West zone Team Leader.

The primary intention of the meeting was to introduce and review plans for implementing a

See **Meeting**, Page 3



Photo by Mark Sheppard, N7LYE

ACS Team Leaders Meet on January 23rd, 2005



QRV?



QRV? = "Are you prepared?"

QRV? is the Newsletter of the Seattle Auxiliary Communication Service, City of Seattle, Emergency Management

Seattle ACS Net

Meets weekly on Mondays at 7:00 p.m.—Bill Ehler K7NZV Net Manager
146.96 MHz PSRG repeater/-600 KHz offset/103.5 tone

Seattle ACS Frequency Plan

Program your radios so they always transmit the indicated tone. We rely on this for automatic access to supporting systems.

Check-in & Event Coordination Frequency

146.96 MHz repeater/-600 KHz offset/103.5 tone

*In case of repeater failure use 146.96 simplex with 103.5 tone. You will be assigned an operating frequency for passing traffic.
We want to keep the check-in and coordination frequency as clear as possible.*

Operating frequencies

These frequencies are to be used for passing message traffic between field posts and the Seattle EOC.

UHF repeaters: Primary System

443.650 MHz ACS-North repeater. Tone 141.3 Hz (Xmt and Rcv) Primary area served: Northeast and Northwest zones
443.000 MHz ACS-Central repeater. Tone 141.3 Hz (Xmt and Rcv) Primary area served: Central East and Central West zones
441.800 MHz ACS-South repeater. Tone 141.3 Hz (Xmt) Primary area served: Southeast and Southwest zones

VHF Simplex: Backup System

*ACS operates a north and south remote base that receives and transmits on our two designated simplex frequencies.
Tones are mandatory.*

146.56 MHz ACS-VHF North. Simplex. Tone 103.5 Hz (Xmt and Rcv)
Planned service area: Northwest, Northeast, and Central-East zones

147.58 MHz ACS-VHF South. Simplex. Tone 103.5 Hz (Xmt and Rcv)
Planned service area: Southwest, Southeast, and Central-West zones

Six Meter Repeater – used for special operations: 53.250, -1.7 MHz offset, MHz tone 100 Hz.

State & County Nets

Washington State Emergency meets Mondays at 5:30 p.m. Saturdays at 9:00 a.m. 3.985 MHz

King County ARES meets Sundays at 8:00 p.m. 146.82 MHz (tone 103.5)

Please direct inquiries about the Auxiliary Communication Service to:
Mark Sheppard, N7LYE ACS Manager
Seattle EOC 2320 4th Avenue,
Seattle, WA 98121-1718

voice - 206 684 5027 FAX - 206 470 6715 Mark.Sheppard@Seattle.Gov

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Please direct letters, articles, and inquiries about **QRV?** to the editor:
Peter Smith N7BYP (206) 284-2098, n7byp@arrl.net

ACS Website: www.cityofseattle.org/eoc/acs

From the Editor

Old Radios

I'm guessing many of you share my interest in old radios. While at the Puyallup Fair last fall I spotted an ancient radio installed in an old police cruiser on display at the Washington State Patrol exhibit. The only camera I had with me was in my Palm Pilot so I took the picture below with it. Although you can't really see much detail it's easy to see how big (and probably heavy) that radio was.

It reminded me of how important radio communications are for public safety. In those days huge and inefficient radios were the only ones available. They were *essential* for effective communications.

If those old "boat anchor" radios were useful then, think about how much *more* helpful modern radios and ACS operators are for emergency communications today. — — — — —

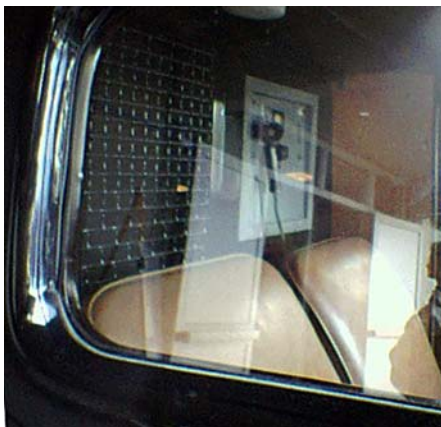


Photo by Peter Smith, N7BYP

Old State Patrol Radio

Meeting, from Page 1

Spring, 2005 ACS recruitment campaign. Mark Sheppard, N7LYE, distributed copies of materials to be used for the campaign including an updated ACS team zone map, copies of recruitment brochures and flyers for display created by George Boswell, K7YHB, and a letter signed by Seattle's Police Chief and Director of Department of Neighborhoods endorsing the ACS mission and intentions and ACS need for use of City resources (namely community centers) for staging emergency communication operations.

To begin recruitment efforts, Mark also unveiled plans for developing a schedule of community information meetings to be held across all six ACS team zones. (see page 6 .ed) The meetings will be facilitated by Mark, respective Team Leaders and other attending ACS members. Once dates and locations for these meetings are finalized, these materials will be mailed (hard copy) to all licensed amateur radio operators living within the city limits of Seattle using a comprehensive listing of eligible individuals organized by postal zip code. ACS will hire a mailing service to complete this project.

Final editing to recruitment brochure and flyer will be completed ASAP by Mark and George Boswell, K7YHB. Jonathan Scherch, KK7PW, will also submit a short description of this initiative for listing within the Febru-

ary, 2005, newsletter of the Western Washington DX Club. After covering these agenda items, Mark also commented on the progress being made on the development of a high-speed data system for use by / for emergency communication agencies. Mark and ACS member Steve Monsey, N0FPF, are collaborating with other regional EmComm officials to develop this "backbone" system as an advancement on slow-speed packet radio systems, featuring internet-style software and capabilities for reliable ease-of-use. At the conclusion of the meeting, Mark reminded the group of the upcoming Communications Academy to be held in April at the Shoreline Conference Center. The meeting closed at 2100 hours. — — — — —

Communications Academy 2005

Check your calendars now! The 2005 Communications Academy will be held on Saturday, April 2 and Sunday, April 3, from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. As last year, the Academy will be at the Shoreline Conference Center.

Additional information about the Academy can be found at the Academy website: <http://www.commacademy.org/2005/index.php>. See you there! — — — — —

Mark's Message

By

Mark Sheppard, N7LYE

ACS News

Our recruitment campaign is ready to begin. A letter signed by the Police Chief and the Superintendent of Parks and Recreation is about to be mailed to over 2,250 hams living in the Seattle area. The letter invites hams to attend ACS information meetings scheduled over the next six weeks in their neighborhoods and urges them to consider joining ACS. A key point of the letter is that amateur radio operators are a valued resource and essential to the city's Homeland Security and disaster preparedness plan. Current ACS members will receive this letter as well. We hope you will consider attending the meetings in your area to show support and help the meeting leaders explain the program and answer questions. Our goal is to increase membership by 250.

I want to thank my colleagues on the leadership team for their hard work in organizing and preparing for this recruitment campaign and the new member training that will follow. The team met on January 23, to finalize the plan. The picture (*see page 1, ed.*) shows many of the team assembled in the EOC working out the details. Also a special thanks to George Boswell, K7YHB for developing an ACS information

brochure to be distributed at the meeting and to Matt Thomas, KD7PPK for his work on developing graphics and business cards.

Also I want to thank Woody Wilkerson Facilities Maintenance Director for Parks & Recreation and Mark Howard, Interim Emergency Management Manager, SPD for all their efforts in moving the recruitment campaign forward.

Web Page Improvements

We think you'll find it! Our page that is, Yes we have a better address: <http://www.seattle.gov/acs/> and it has its own spot under Public Safety Resources, listed under Telecommunications on the City web page. It also retains its old location under Emergency Management. Our webmaster Paula Weir, KC7FAB, and Jonathan Scherch, KK7PW, have been working to remodel the site and improve the content. Paula received the necessary access to directly update and edit the web content. This recent change will improve the currency of information and our ability to respond in a more real-time manner to distribute information about current events. Special thanks to Rona Zevin, Bruce Blood and all the folks on the City's DoIT WEB team for their help in making this happen and thank you to Nik Weisend of the SPU WEB team for his help in support the ACS page and moving content

over the past many years.

High Speed Packet Project

We did get a Federal Homeland Security Grant in cooperation with King County to implement a high speed "internet" like wireless communications link between area EOC and key operating centers. We have teamed up with Ed Bruette, N7NVP, the State RACES Officer who has organized a state-wide effort to develop a wide area strategy for improving digital messaging capabilities. Steve Monsey, N0FPF, has assembled a technical team of packet experts who are hard at work designing a system to meet the grant requirements. Equipment will soon be purchased and tested. If the tests are successful the remainder of the system will be purchased and installed, first connecting 10 EOCs and other operating centers across King, Kitsap, Pierce and Snohomish County as well as the State EOC. The next phase of the grant project will be to extend the network across King County to include 10 more EOCs. The information gained from this project will be incorporated into the State Wide effort hopefully leading toward a wider use of the technology.

Best wishes to all

Have a great New Year ... see you at the neighbor recruitment meeting... 73's Mark

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Personal Profile

By
Peter Smith, N7BYP

After a hiatus of a few issues we are back again with our personal profile column. Today we'll update a previous profile about Bill Dockstader W7LSK. In future issues we'll have profiles of new members and, from time to time, write updates of those we have profiled previously.

Your editor enjoyed a pleasant visit with Bill and his wife Linda (K7LSK) at their home in a retirement community near the Northgate shopping mall on a recent Saturday morning. Bill has retired due to a neurological disability traced to Agent Orange exposure received during his time in Vietnam. His service there, I would add, was distinguished through the award of a *Bronze Star*. Bill has been following a rehabilitation program and is now doing quite well all things considered. By the way, Bill shared some fascinating ID cards from his 60's era Civilian Defense (CD) days with me. I

think you'll like to see them too.

Bill's interest in amateur radio continues to center on public service. He enjoys being involved with emergency communications and although there are limitations in what he can do, there is, as Bill puts it, "an immense enjoyment" in giving back to the community through radio. Our city's appreciation of Bill and his public service activities have been expressed through numerous awards including a *Certificate of Appreciation* from the Seattle Police Department and our own *ACS Distinguished Career Service Award*. Bill's latest idea is to set up an arrangement whereby a special Explorer post would work with ACS to liaison with community SDART teams. This would be under the auspices of the Learning for Life scouting program.

Radio activities are a bit constrained because of Bill's current QTH. Nevertheless, he has been able to put up a Yaesu ATS 120 vertical antenna outside his apartment and has made numerous contacts on most

bands using an assortment of transceivers including Yaesu FT 897 (HF/VHF/UHF), Icom IC 910 (144MHz -1.2 GHz), and Icom IC 765 Pro 2 (HF and 6 meter) rigs. Bill mentioned plans to establish an internet link to a rig located at Paul Beringer NG7Z's QTH. This would allow him to transmit and receive through a much improved antenna system. As far as radio operating is concerned, two meter FM continues to attract most of Bill's attention.

Photography also holds Bill's interest these days. He enjoys scanning, digital editing, and printing of negatives and slides he's taken over the years. Bill's musical side is also being developed through piano lessons. When I asked him to suggest a favorite Seattle spot for *QRV* readers, Bill said, without hesitation, "the EOC." Now isn't that just like Bill! Sitting nearby, Linda rolled her eyes and added that they *really* enjoy dining at FloAnna's Diner on Lake City Way. They made it sound so good I'm going to try it myself soon! — — — —



Photo by Peter Smith, N7BYP

Bill Dockstader, W7LSK, at his station

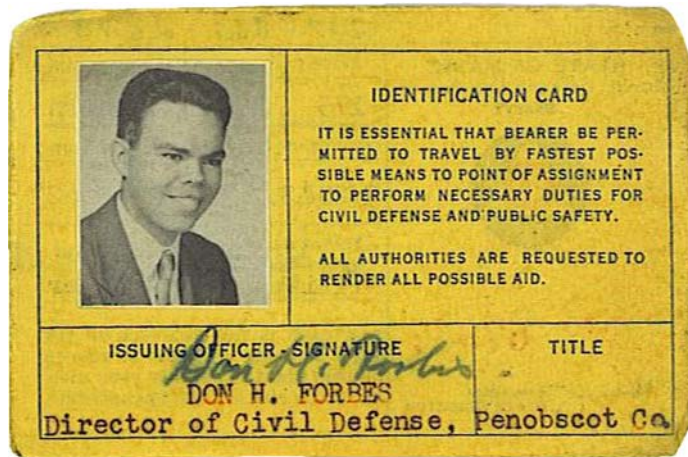


Photo by Peter Smith, N7BYP

Bill's 1962 Civilian Defense ID Card

ACS Information Meetings

Please Attend an ACS Information Meeting in your Neighborhood

Visit the ACS WEB Page at <http://seattle.gov/eoc/acs/> for more information.

NE Meeting 1 - March 3, 7:00 PM	Green Lake Community Center, 7201 E Green Lake Dr N 98115
SW Meeting 2 - March 5, 10:00 AM	High Point Community Center, 6920 34th Ave. SW 98126
NE Meeting 2 - March 12, 10:00 AM	Meadowbrook Community Center, 10517 35 th Ave NE 98125
SE Meeting 1 - March 15, 7:00 PM	Jefferson Community Center, 3801 Beacon Ave S 98108
CE Meeting 1 - March 19, 10:00 AM	Garfield Community Center, 2323 East Cherry St 98122
SW Meeting 1 - March 22, 7:00 PM	Hiawatha Community Center, 2700 California Ave SW 98126,
SE Meeting 2 - March 26, 10:00 AM	Van Asselt Community Center, 2820 S Myrtle St 98108
CW Meeting 1 - March 29, 7:00 PM	Magnolia Community Center, 2550 34 th Ave W 98199
NW Meeting 1 - April 5, 7:00 PM	Ballard Community Center, 6020 28th Ave NW 98107
NW Meeting 2 - April 9, 10:00 AM	Loyal Heights Community Center, 2101 NW 77 th St 98117
CE Meeting 2 - April 12, 7:00 PM	Miller Community Center, 330 19 th Ave E 98112
CW Meeting 2 - April 16, 10:00 AM	Queen Anne Community Center, 1901 First Ave W 98119
Make-up Mtg. - April 23, 10:00 AM	Delridge Community Center, 4501 Delridge Wy SW 98106

QRV? - Seattle ACS

Office of Emergency Management
Seattle Police Department
2320 4th Avenue
Seattle, WA 98121-1718